

THE FEDERAL SPOTLIGHT

House-Senate Group To Study Pay Raise

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Action on Federal pay raise legislation is expected to resume this week with the appointment of House-Senate conferees on the postal rate-postal pay legislation.

As soon as the postal pay-postal rate bill is disposed of, the House is expected to take action on classified employee pay raises. The Senate has already approved a classified pay bill.

The scheduled return tomorrow of Chairman Murray of the House Civil Service Committee, who has been ill the past two weeks, is expected to result in the appointment of House and Senate conferees. The Senate has delayed naming its conferee, pending the House action.

Federal pay sponsors are hopeful that the conferees on the postal rate-postal pay measure can hold their first meeting Tuesday. Their hope is that accord can be reached before Congress takes its 10-day Easter recess starting April 3. But these hopes aren't too bright due to the fact the postal pay-postal rate measure is a complicated and controversial one and probably will take quite a number of meetings to settle.

Federal classified employee leaders are trying to get the House leadership to schedule action on classified pay in the meantime. But it's reported the leadership wants to see what pay pattern is finally established for postal workers before taking final action on classified pay.

It should be emphasized that pay raises for Federal classified and postal employees this year are certain, even though the delay in enacting them has given rise to concern among Government workers. However, as Friday's column pointed out, the delay probably means that the pay raises will be made retroactive to March 1 instead of the hoped-for January 1.

PER DIEM RAISES—The Government's non-defense agencies are following the Defense Department's lead in increasing the pay of their per diem (blue collar) workers. The Defense Department Friday announced an average 13 cents an hour pay raise for its 16,000 per diem workers in the Washington area, effective the first pay period after March 29.

The General Services Administration, largest non-defense employer of per diem workers in the area, announced that it would follow the Defense Department's pay raise schedule for its 9,000 blue collar employees effective April 6. Other agencies, such as the Veterans Administration, Health, Education and Welfare, Interior and the rest will also put the pay raises into effect for their per diem workers. VA, because it doesn't have the necessary money on hand, will have to delay the raises until Congress gives it a supplemental appropriation. However, the VA raises will be retroactive to April 6.

Incidentally, this is the

fourth round of pay raises for Federal per diem workers in the Washington area since the last pay raise for classified employees was enacted in March 1955.

CAPITAL ROUNDUP—Mrs. Alice J. Moore of the Government Printing Office has received a \$330 cash award for a meritorious suggestion that will save the GPO \$20,000 a year in the production of national-emergency printing—the greatest savings yet achieved in the agency as a result of an employee suggestion. . . . The Office of the Chief of Army Engineers has presented sustained superior performance awards to James Cheek, Elizabeth Payne, Margaret Reiss, Ruth Richmond, Beatrice Taylor and Cyril Webster, and meritorious suggestion awards to John Sweeney, Patricia Bonbrake, Juanita Daughtied, Edward H. Jones and William Schaem. . . . Carlyle Fliedner of Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics has been presented the distinguished civilian service award. . . . The Veterans Administration's veterans benefits office has presented 10-year length-of-service pins to Carmen Cabrera, James Avery, Homer Blakey, Jr., Dr. William Brings, Mrs. Helen Brokaw, Jerome Chatman, Mrs. Callie Coles, Perry Cooks, Mrs. Dorothy Cozzens, Mrs. Clarabelle Doleman, William Garvin, Melvin Graham, Mrs. Evelyn Hairston, Dr. Paul Hathorn, Mrs. Dorothy Huelette, Walter Hwozdewich, Wilbur Hyson, Robert W. Jones, Ernest Lytes, Mrs. Maye Magruder, Priscilla Matos, Willie Moten, Dudley

Pendleton, Daniel Puma, Leslie Roberts, George Reilly, Thomas Shatteen, Peter Sterrantino, Daniel N. Smith, Jennie Soddin, Earl Spencer, Mrs. Frances Tanksley and Mrs. Helen Williams. . . . Fort Belvoir has given sustained superior performance awards to Eugene Osolinsky and Clarence Hendricks. . . . Thomas Maher has been named chief counsel to National Labor Relations Board member Philip Ray Rodgers.

. . . William Palmer has been appointed chief of the division of irrigation in Interior's Bureau of Reclamation. . . . Paul Whitney of Interior's Office of Oil and Gas has been given a superior performance award. The Civil Service Commission sends the reminder that it is continuing to give exams for stenographers and typists, the starting pay \$61 to \$66 a week. . . . The Foreign Claims Settlement Commission has presented a five-year service award pin to William Keller. . . . The following Government careerists have been chosen to attend the Brookings Institution's second two-week conference for Federal executives at Williamsburg, Va., beginning March 16: Frank Barley, Civil Service Commission; Frederick Batrus, Post Office Department; William Carey, Budget Bureau; Samuel Clements, Defense; Kenneth Dunbar, Atomic Energy; Thomas Estes, State; Robert Freeman, Central Intelligence; Brig. Gen. Robert Hall, Defense; Kenneth Hapgood, Tennessee Valley Authority; J. Kay Lindsay, Federal Power Commission; H. Laurence Manwaring, Agriculture; Hugh McKenna, Health, Education and Welfare; William Minot, International Co-operation Administration; Col. Danile Omer, Selective Service; Carter Page, Army; David Strubinger, Treasury; Albert Thomas, Air Force; Earl Thomas, Interior; Wells Thomson, Navy; Willis Underwood, Veterans Administration; Merrill Whitman, Panama Canal Co., and Clotaire Wood, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. . . . "Management in the Scientific Age" will be the subject of the all-day annual conference of the Washington Chapter of the Society for Advancement of Management next Thursday at the Willard Hotel.